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Sean Patrick Maloney
U.S. House of Representatives
18th District, New York

September 4, 2019

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write today to express my strong opposition to your administration's plans to cut funding for planned military construction projects at the United States Military Academy at West Point in order to pay for the construction of a wall on the southern border.

The projects at West Point have been Congressionally authorized and are essential to the operations, success, and safety of the Academy and its cadets, faculty and their families. These projects include the construction of a state-of-the-art Cyber and Engineering Academic Center and parking structure which will be critical to future readiness of the Army.

The Constitution requires that you seek approval for such funds from the people's duly elected representatives in Congress. Your attempt to circumvent the U.S. House and Senate is a clear violation of the will of the legislative branch and raises serious Constitutional concerns.

I firmly believe that taking any funds Congress appropriated for necessary military construction projects threatens readiness. But I also have particular concerns regarding West Point, as I represent the area in Congress. Stealing funds from the next generation of military leaders to fund an expensive and inefficient border wall would be a misuse of federal funds. It would also demonstrate a lack of commitment to West Point and its outstanding cadets, faculty, and staff.

I strongly urge you to abandon this plan and hold true to your commitment to the men and women of our armed forces.

Sincerely,

Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress